

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the title of the invention with the following amended title of invention:

PRODUCTION PROCESS FOR 16-DEHYDROPREGNEOLONE ~~16-~~  
~~DEHYDROPREGNEOLONE~~ AND ITS ANALOGS

Please replace page 1, last paragraph (also marked as paragraph [0006] in the published application) with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention is the ~~extending of~~ continuous effort from Tian's previous ~~prevenient~~ inventions (Weisheng Tian, et al, Chinese patent, patent No: 96116304.6; Chinese patent, application No: 00127974.2; Chinese patent, application No: 01113196.9 etc).

Please replace the section heading on page 2, line 1 (just prior to paragraph [0007] in the published application), with the following amended section heading:

~~Abstract~~ Summary of the invention

Please replace the abstract of the invention with the following amended abstract; a revised abstract with all amendments incorporated therein is attached on a separate sheet of paper:

~~The present invention relates to a clean process~~ Process for producing the degradation of ~~steroidal sapogenin to produce 16-dehydropregnenolone and its analogs[,] from The pure or the crude pseudo steroidal sapogenin[,] derived from steroidal sapogenin, having the steps of dissolving the pseudo steroidal sapogenin dissolved in an organic solvent, and reacting reacts with hydrogen peroxide, optionally with a with or without metal compound and an acid as catalyst[,] and the~~ The crude products directly go through elimination and hydrolization in the presence of a base to give 16-Dehydropregnenolone or its analog ~~analog~~, accompanied with the other product 4R(or S)-methyl-5-hydroxy-pentate, which is converted to 4R(or S)-methyl- $\delta$ -

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pentyl lactone after acidification and extraction from the water layer. This technology improved the utilizing degree of steroidal sapogenin, improved the yield, and cleared up the chromium pollution in the former technique. In a word, the method disclosed in this invention is more suitable for manufacture.